

Vantage

FALL 2000

Laura S. Mendenhall named eighth president

ON SATURDAY, JUNE 17, 2000, at a called meeting of the Board of Trustees, Laura S. Mendenhall was elected the eighth president of Columbia Theological Seminary. A Search Committee had been created by the board at the beginning of the academic year, 1999-2000, because of the announced retirement of President Douglas W. Oldenburg at the end of the academic year, June 30, 2000. The Search Committee had worked throughout the months until the unanimous selection of Dr. Mendenhall in early June. It was with great excitement that her name was then presented to the Board of Trustees, which clearly responded with the same enthusiasm.

Laura Mendenhall is a life-long Presbyterian. She was raised in the church in Texas. As a college student at Austin College, she worked at First Presbyterian Church in Tyler, Texas. Following college, she entered Presbyterian School of Christian Education, receiving the M.A. degree in 1971. While there, she met and married Charles Mendenhall, a student at Union Theological Seminary. After graduation, the couple were mission-

aries in Zaire. Laura Mendenhall also served in the Bible Department on the faculty of St. Catherine's School in Richmond, Virginia, and as director of Christian education at Ginter Park Presbyterian Church in the same city. During this time, the couple's two children were born.

In California, while her husband pursued a Ph.D. degree in pastoral counseling, Laura Mendenhall became an educator on a presbytery staff. She also became an elder in a congregation. Her experiences of the various aspects of the life of the church developed in her a sense of call to the ministry of Word and Sacrament as a necessary extension of her role as an educator in the life of the church. She therefore began the process leading to ordination and completed the Master of Divinity degree at San Francisco Theological Seminary. After her husband accepted a position in Florida, Laura Mendenhall became an associate pastor at First Presbyterian Church in Orlando from 1981-1983. She was then called to become an associate pastor at Central Presbyterian Church in Austin, Texas.

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President Laura S. Mendenhall

JEAN SHIERIN - THE ATLANTA JOURNAL-CONSTITUTION



The Campbell Scholars. Front row, l-r: Douglas John Hall, Ofelia Ortega, Russel Botman, Joanna Adams '79. Back row: Damayanthi Niles, Janos Pasztor, Walter Brueggemann, James Lowry '66, and Erskine Clarke '66, director of the program.

First annual Campbell Scholars Seminar begins

A DISTINGUISHED GROUP of scholars and pastors gathered on September 18 to initiate Columbia's first annual Campbell Scholars Seminar. The seminar's theme is "Mission of the Church in the Twenty-First Century," and this first year it will have as a sub-theme "Mission as Hope in Action." The two-month seminar grows out of Columbia's "Vision 2020 Statement," which was adopted by the seminary's Board of Trustees as a guide for the coming years. Named in honor of Columbia's former trustee and benefactor John Bulow Campbell, the seminar is intended to help Columbia and the church think more clearly about the character and work of mission in the new century. A critical component of each seminar will be the presence

of scholars and pastors from around the world.

Six countries and deep participation in the life and thought of the church mark the membership of the first seminar. Russel Botman, professor of practical theology and missiology at the University of Stellenbosch, South Africa, brings to the seminar the experience of the rapidly expanding church in Africa. Douglas John Hall, professor emeritus of Christian theology at McGill University in Montreal, Canada, is widely known and read as a theologian who has given serious attention to the missiological implications of the North American church. Damayanthi Niles comes from the Christianity in Asia Project of the Faculty of Divinity at St. John's

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A letter from Columbia's new president

Laura S. Mendenhall, President

AS I WRITE this to you, I have been on campus for only three weeks, but I have learned a lot in that time. I am not asking the same questions today that I was asking prior to my arrival. For months I had been wrestling with the question: "Why me?" In these three weeks I have learned this is the wrong question.

When the Presidential Search Committee first contacted me, I asked, "Why are you talking to me when I know you will not call a woman to be president of Columbia Seminary? Even if you were to call a woman, I'm only a pastor." I laughed at them with my "why me?" questions. However, while rereading the story of Sarah laughing in her tent at the prospects of God working in her life, I decided not to laugh at what the Holy Spirit might do in mine.

After I realized that the Search Committee was more open to the Holy Spirit than I was, I was asking a new question: "Why couldn't God disturb someone else's life and leave me alone?" I began to dread what God might do with my life. I was so caught up in the privilege of being a pastor,

caught up in my long-time home and friends in Texas, that I did not want God to do a new thing in my life.

Over time I became embarrassed at my fears and began to look instead to God's faithfulness. There are so many other people who would be wonderful presidents of this seminary. It has taken me a while to come to grips with the reality that while there certainly are many people who could do this job well, I have been the one who has been asked to do it now. I am making peace with the fact that I may never fully comprehend this particular "Why me?"

In the three weeks in which I have been on campus, I have put away the questions. I am now responding: Thanks be to God. I am thrilled to be called to serve as the eighth president of Columbia Theological Seminary. I am eager to visit with congregations and presbyteries, encouraging them to identify those with gifts for ministry and to invite them to come to seminary, to this seminary,

- where, in honest inquiry, they can be trained to read Scripture with many

different conversation partners, past and present, from around the globe, that together we might discern God's Word for us today,

- where, as witnesses to God's redemptive activity in Jesus Christ, they can teach and proclaim the Gospel with confidence and joy,
- where men and women can be equipped as leaders in order that they might go out and equip the saints for ministry in Christ's name, and
- where, as an expression of God's calling to us, our worship of God shapes our life together.

I come to Columbia Theological Seminary as a servant of the church of Jesus Christ praying that God will be glorified in this call to theological education.

Sometimes people ask me what my plans are for Columbia Seminary. I did not come to this seminary because I thought it needed "fixing." To the contrary. For some time I have considered Columbia Seminary to be among our church's cornerstones, a leader among seminaries. This seminary is known

across the church for its outstanding faculty, for its response to the church's need for resourcing in mission and spirituality and new church development and lay leadership (among others), for its creativity, for its partnerships with churches and theological education all over the world, and for its commitment to lifelong training of leaders who will serve congregations which are yearning for a pastor.

It is my intent to support what the Board of Trustees, faculty, staff, students, alums, and friends of the seminary are already doing. I intend to listen carefully during these next few months in order that, together, we might see clearly what the Holy Spirit is doing and what God might continue to do in this place. We are called to be faithful stewards of the resources with which we are blessed. Surely God is expecting a lot from us. For this seminary is a leading seminary, preparing leaders for Christ's ministry in the world. And my response is: Thanks be to God that I have been invited to participate. To God be the glory. □

Watkins to direct new project

JAMES WATKINS '71 (D.Min. '77) has returned to campus with a mission.

The mission is "to nurture a spirit of mutual community, shared responsibility and common destiny among the citizens of the Atlanta region." Watkins is part of a team based in three Atlanta seminaries that will work to foster the development of

public religious leadership by involving the theological education institutions in current issues confronting the community.

The project, called "Faith and the City,"

was established in 1999 through a grant from an Atlanta foundation and grew out of conversations among local seminary presidents and deans of faculty about the importance of religious persons and institutions being present as public decisions are made and implemented.

Watkins is no stranger to the public arena. The former Georgia Tech sports Hall of Fame member and track coach served as a district director for Congressman Ben Jones from 1989-92. He also has served as a pastor and

campus minister to local congregations and as a consultant to the PC(USA) World Wide Ministries division.

He has been involved in work with the Public Policy Advocate Oversight Committee of Greater Atlanta Presbytery. Watkins has written for a wide variety of ecumenical and PC(USA) publications, in addition to being a contributor to several textbooks used in Christian education and peacemaking curricula.

Most recently, Watkins served as the associate for Public Policy Advocacy Training in the Presbyterian Peacemaking Program, which seeks to make peacemaking an integral part of the church's congregational life and program.

"From Jim's work with local congregations and the Presbyterian Peacemaking Program, it is evident that he is well equipped as a leader and a trainer of leaders for this city," notes Erskine Clarke '66, acting dean of faculty.

Watkins joins his counterparts at Candler School of Theology and Interdenominational Theological Center in making Faith and the City's vision a reality.

For more information on Faith and the City, see the next issue of *Vantage*. □

David Dault (MATS '01)



Ten students and five professors participated in a South African Doctor of Ministry seminar on "Race and Religion." Jointly sponsored by Columbia and the faculties of divinity at the universities of Stellenbosch and West Cape, the seminar gave special attention to the work of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. Professor Russel Botman of the University of Stellenbosch was the South Africa leader and Professor Erskine Clarke '66 the Columbia coordinator.

Email newsletter for alumni/ae

Jim Speed '57 (D.Min. '84), director of alumni/ae and church relations, is publishing a newsletter for alumni/ae via email. The first issue was sent in August. If you would like to receive these newsletters, please send your email address to Barbara Poe at poeb@CTSnet.edu. □

Doctor of Ministry dissertations

DAN ANDRIACCO, Cincinnati, OH, "Screen Saved: The Church in a Mass-Mediated Culture"

BRANT BAKER, Mesa, AZ, "Teaching People to Pray"

ROYCE BALLARD, Metairie, LA, "Prayers from the Chapel"

GARRY BRANTLEY, Hoover, AL, "Biblical Interpretation in the Churches of Christ"

BEVERLY BRIGMAN, Jefferson, GA, "Seeking God in the Midst of Transition"

EDWARD BRITT, Nashville, TN, "Creating Unity in the Midst of Diversity: Helping Christians Be the Body of Christ in a Postmodern Context"

BRAD BROMLING, Bellevue, WA, "Reshaping Christian Identity: Encountering Jesus in Luke"

WALTER BROWN, Athens, GA, "Promoting Racial Understanding Through Dialogue and Worship"

MONICA BURGHER, Portland, Jamaica, "A Study of Christian Education in Rural Brethren Congregations of Jamaica"

ROB BURNS, Pearl, MS, "Selecting Sunday School Teachers Through a Process of Spiritual Discernment"

ELLA BUSBY, Florence, SC, "African-American Worship in the Reformed Tradition: We Too Sing Hallelujah"

VINCENT CAMPBELL, Kingston, Jamaica, "An Initiative in Inter-Religious Dialogue"

ALAN CARDEN, Madison, MS, "A Model for the Establishment of a Crisis/Bereavement Team in the Local Church"

SUNG YUN CHO, Bremerton, WA, "Church Growth Through Lay Ministry According to Ephesians 4:11-12"

ELSA CLARKE, St. Mary, Jamaica, "Ministry of Empowerment for the Elderly: Pastoral Care for the Elderly in Rural Jamaica"

TODD COLLIER, Savannah, GA, "Faith in Practice: A Synergistic Paradigm for Practical Ecumenism"

GREGORY DARDEN, Germantown, TN, "The Evolution of the Office of Elder in the Presbyterian Church (USA) and Possible Directions for its Future"

DAVID FAHNER, Jasper, GA, "Promise Keepers as a Model for Building Men's Groups in the Church"

THOMAS GILMORE, Birmingham, AL, "The Function of the Sermon in the African-American Baptist Funeral Services"

GERALD GRAY, Chesapeake, VA, "A Model of Ministry for the United States Navy Chaplain Corps for Effectively Meeting the Needs of Generation Exers and Millennium Generation Sailors and Marines"

GREGORY GRIFFITH, Hoosick, NY, "Developing and Teaching an Ethics Course Based upon Hebrew Scripture for Sixth Form Students at Hoosac School"

GUY GRIFFITH, Charlotte, NC, "Our Hope for Years to Come: Preparing a New Generation of Lay Leaders in the Presbyterian Church (USA) Through Teaching the Study Catechism"

FRED HEMBREE, Murfreesboro, TN, "Exploring the Importance of the Use of Imagery and Metaphor in Preaching for the New Millennium"

JIM HIGGINS, Atlanta, GA, "Postmodern Homiletic From Discursive Argumentation to Imagistic Plot"

LOWELL INGRAM, Mendenhall, MS, "A Two-Edged Sword: Forgiving and Being Forgiveness"

MICHAEL JOHNSON, Kingston, Jamaica, "Towards the Development of a Caring Ministry for Moravian Ministers in Jamaica"

HUGH JONES, Niagara Falls, Canada, "Opening the Future: Reappropriating and Adapting Spiritual Leadership in the Lower Courts of the Presbyterian Church in Canada"

P.J. LAWRENCE, St. James, Jamaica, "Toward a Caribbean Theology of Liberation: A Christian Response to Rastafarian Movement"

DIRK LESNETT, Pittsburgh, PA, "Biblical Preaching Within a Biblically Illiterate Culture"

TOM LEWIS, Commerce, GA, "Psalms of Lament as a Spiritual Resource for Depression"

EUSTACE MCCOLLIN-MOORE, St. George, Barbados, "Anglican Meets Spiritual Baptist: A Dialogue with a Religious Other"

TERRY MOORE, Oak Ridge, NC, "Preparation for Christian Marriage"

HECTOR ORTIZ, Houston, TX, "Discernment: A Theological Process in Ecclesial Decision Making"

KENNY PAYNE, Luverne, AL, "Telling Stories: Sources of Identity in the Church of Christ"

JUDITH RARICK, Grandview, MO, "Into the Future: A Process to Begin Redevelopment in the Smaller Congregation"

GEORGE RAWN, Morristown, TN, "The Virgin Mary as a Focal Person for Ecumenical Christian Dialogue"

JIM RILEY, Carmel, IN, "A Model for Teaching Spiritual Formation in the New Member Classes of the Presbyterian Churches"

CHUCK ROLAN, Kennesaw, GA, "Care for the Dying: A Story-Based Approach to Increase Congregational Involvement in the Care of Hospice Patients"

CAROL BENZ SCOTT, Marietta, GA, "Silenced Voices: The Effects of Texts Omitted from the Revised Common Lectionary on People in Pain"

TOMMY SIKES, Madison, MS, "A Model of Members as Missionaries Using Philip's Witness in Acts 6 and 8"

JIM SIMPSON, Alpharetta, GA, "Listening to Preach, Listening to Preaching"

SCOTT SLATER, Washington, DC, "Equipping Parents to Foster Spirituality and Morality in Their Children Through the Opportunity of Baptismal Preparation"

EARL SMITH, St. Petersburg, FL, "Becoming the One People of God: A Model for Congregational Redevelopment"

DOUG STEPHENSON, Jonesboro, GA, "Glossolalia as a Sign of the Times for Christian Unity"

SUSAN STREET-BEAVERS, Indianapolis, IN, "Not Like Me: Reducing the Fear of Difference, a Cross-Cultural Dilemma (Cross-Cultural Training in the Christian Church, Disciples of Christ)"

GUS SUCCOP, Charlotte, NC, "Almighty Friendship: The Intercultural Mission and Witness of the Church in a Postmodern World"

RINALDO HERNÁNDEZ TORRES, Havana, Cuba, "The Methodist Societies (1744-1784) as a Paradigm for Growing Churches in Cuba"

2000 Master of Divinity degree graduates and placements

ROBERT ALEXANDER, associate pastor, Westminster Presbyterian Church, Bradenton, FL

LAURIE ARMSTRONG, parish resident, Fourth Presbyterian Church, Chicago, IL

MICHAEL BAILEY, associate pastor, First (Scots) Presbyterian Church, Charleston, SC

RACHAEL BANZHOF, associate pastor, Timberridge Presbyterian Church, McDonough, GA

KAZY BLOCHER, director of campus ministry, Fort Hill Presbyterian Church, Clemson, SC

MICHAEL BRAZELLE, pastor, Grassy Creek Presbyterian Church, Spruce Pine, NC, and Newdale Presbyterian Church, Burnsville, NC

JONATHAN CARROLL, graduate study, Princeton Theological Seminary, Princeton, NJ

BRANDI CASTO, hospice chaplain, Georgia Baptist Hospital, Atlanta, GA

KATHY CHUNG

CYNTHIA CLARK

LATTIE COLLINS, pastor, First Presbyterian Church, Donalsonville, GA

KATHY CRIGHTON

BECKY DAVIS, chaplain, Presbyterian Home for Children, Talladega, AL

SHERRY EDWARDS

AMY ERICKSON, graduate study, Princeton Theological Seminary, Princeton, NJ

GORDON FOLTZ, stated supply, First Presbyterian Church, Dadeville, Alabama

BARBARA FRANCIS

JOHN GROSS, chaplain, St. Joseph's Hospital of Atlanta, Atlanta, GA

RICH HOLMES, pastor, First Presbyterian Church, Kings Mountain, NC

BARRY JENKINS

CAROL JOHNSON, clinical pastoral education, Eger Health Care Center, Staten Island, NY

FRANCIE KING, clinical pastoral education, Palmetto Health Alliance, Columbia, SC

ROB LAUKOTER, pastor, Presbyterian Church of the Covenant, Hurricane, WV

JANET LOOBY

KITTY MANSON

CYNTHIA MONTGOMERY, graduate study, Columbia Seminary

KELTH MORRISON, stated supply, Hemphill Memorial Presbyterian Church, Stockbridge, GA

SARAH PARKER, pastor, Ebenezer Presbyterian Church, Hogansville, GA

JEANETTE PINKSTON

LUKE PONDER, associate pastor, First Presbyterian Church, Huntsville, AL

JOAN QUINN, associate pastor, First Presbyterian Church, Bonita Springs, FL

LEE READ

DAVID RICE, pastor, First Presbyterian Church, Anniston, AL

JASON ROBBINS, director of youth and young adult ministries, Shallowford Presbyterian Church, Atlanta, GA

ANNETTE ROGERS, graduate study, Columbia Seminary

TOMMY SMITH

JANELLE TIBBETTS

CHRISTINE TILLER, pastor, Trinity Presbyterian Church, Gainesville, GA

BETSY WALKER

CONNIE WEAVER, associate pastor, Fort Hill Presbyterian Church, Clemson, SC

WAIN WESBERRY, associate pastor, St. Giles Presbyterian Church, Greenville, SC

CHAN WILLIS, associate pastor, Spring Hill Presbyterian Church, Mobile, AL

SANDRA WILMESHERR

RACHEL WINTER, associate pastor, St. Andrew Presbyterian Church, Decatur, AL

BRIAN WYATT, associate pastor, West End Presbyterian Church, West End, NC

EUNICE YANG, associate pastor, Latrobe Presbyterian Church, Latrobe, PA

Master of Arts (Theological Studies)

SUSAN BUELL, graduate study, Columbia Seminary

AUDREY LENHART, graduate study, Emory University, Atlanta, GA

Master of Theology

DAVID ANDERSON, Smyrna, GA, "Prophets Like Moses: Dialogue, Character, and Carnival in the Book of Acts"

*FESTUS GITONGA, Meru, Kenya

*SEONG CHAN KIM, Seoul, Korea

*WOO CHIEOL KIM, Kimpo, Korea

RETIFF MÜLLER, Pretoria, South Africa, "Gospel and Culture in Context: An African Perspective on Inculturation as a Theological Process"

TOMU SAKON, Tokyo, Japan, "The Literary Study on the Book of Amos: The Style and Rhetoric in Amos's Oracles Against the Nations"

ZEB SMITH, Anderson, SC, "Galileo and the Modern Mindset"

SZERÉNA VASS, Nyiregyháza, Hungary, "Evangelistic Ministry in the Reformed Church in Hungary"

**Research course option rather than thesis*

Doctor of Ministry dissertations continued

DON WEHMEYER, Merida, Mexico, "Introducing Contemplative Prayer to a Reformed Mission Setting"

JIM WELDON, Acworth, GA, "Using Small Groups to Teach the Bible to Baby Boomers"

GREGORY WILSON, Lawrenceville, GA, "The Church Environment and Spiritual Growth in a Postmodern Context"

DAVID WYLY, Williamston, NC, "That They May Be One: A Model for Lutheran and Reformed Traditions United Worship"

Continuing Education and Lay Institute Calendar

For further information or to register for courses, call or write:
Mary Miller Brueggemann, Interim Director of Continuing Education,
or Richard S. Dietrich, Director of the Lay Institute of Faith and Life,
Columbia Theological Seminary, Decatur, GA 30031/404-378-8821.

October 23-26 CONGREGATIONS IN TRANSITION Leader: Edward A. White.
Cost: \$250.

October 23, 30, November 6, 13 Fall Evening Lay School, Session Two:
THEOLOGY FROM BELOW: A LOOK AT OLD TESTAMENT WISDOM LITERATURE; SHOULD
WE HAVE SEX IN THE CHURCH? A PRIMER ON SEXUAL ETHICS; and THE GOSPEL
ACCORDING TO REMBRANDT Leaders: Christine Yoder, Mark Douglas, and Rick
Dietrich. Cost: \$40.

October 25, November 1, 8, 15 Fall Morning Lay School, Session Two: AN
AWAKENING FAITH: SPIRITUAL PRACTICE IN THE REAL WORLD Leader: Marshall
Jenkins. Cost: \$30.

October 30 Part II of Spirituality and Aging Series: HONORING PARENTS WHEN
THEY ARE OLDER Leader: Herbert Anderson. Cost: \$25.

November 6-9 WHEN THE HONEYMOON IS OVER: EIGHTEEN MONTHS INTO THE FIRST
CALL Leaders: Carolyn Jones and Stephen Cahoon. Cost: \$175, spouse, \$50.

November 6-10 GUTHRIE SCHOLARS.

December 7 NEW UNDERSTANDINGS OF GRIEF: CHALLENGING THE PARADIGM See
article below.

January 22-25 JANUARY SEMINARS See article on this page.

February 1, 8, 15, 22 Winter Morning Lay Course in Dunwoody: WHAT DOES IT
MEAN TO BE A HUMAN BEING? See article on this page.

February 5, 12, 19, 26 Winter Evening Lay School, Session One: SURPRISE US BY
THE WORDS WE SING; POSTMODERNISM: WHY DOES IT MATTER?; and THE GOSPEL OF
MARK See article on this page.

February 6 CERTIFICATION FOR ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL: CHURCH HISTORY
Leader: Catherine Gonzalez. Cost: \$30. PRESBYTERIAN BENEFITS PLAN Leader:
Clark Simmons. Cost: \$20.

February 6, 13, 20, 27 Winter Morning Lay School, Session Two: MAKING
"SENSE" OF THE BIBLE See article on this page.

February 12-13 NAVIGATING TREACHEROUS WATERS: HONORING OUR PERSONAL
AND PROFESSIONAL BOUNDARIES Leader: Sharon Mook. Cost: \$115.

February 16 LENT RETREAT Leader: Suzanne Guthrie. Cost: \$45.

February 26-27 CONVERSATIONS ABOUT THE MISSIONAL CHURCH, PART II
See article on page 5.

March 19-21 BUSINESS SKILLS FOR PASTORS Leaders: Staff from University of
Georgia. Cost: \$125.

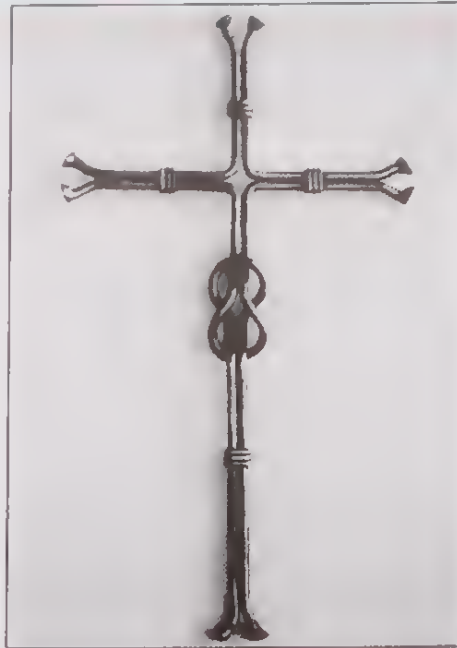
March 26-29 CONTEMPLATIVE RETREAT FOR WOMEN Leader: Roberta Martin.
Cost: \$225.

'New Understandings of Grief' seminar scheduled December 7

BILL MOYERS' TELEVISION series on death and dying, "On Our Own Terms," has given the public fresh permission to talk about a subject that we often leave to the last minute, to our own detriment. To continue the much needed conversation, Columbia is fortunate to have Dr. Kenneth J. Doka, professor of gerontology at the College of New Rochelle and senior consultant to The Hospice Foundation of America, on campus to lead a workshop on

December 7, "New Understandings of Grief: Challenging the Paradigm." Professor Doka, who is author of many books on grief and dying, will explore new understandings and insights that can be of help as we minister to people who have or are experiencing loss.

Cost is \$65. For more information, contact the Office of Continuing Education, 404/687-4562. □



"The Tie That Binds," was hand-forged in steel by C.D. Weaver '59. Weaver has presented the cross to the seminary to be a part of its permanent collection.

January Seminars in place

FIVE SEMINARS ARE available for clergy January 22-25, 2001. Barrie Shepherd's seminar, "The Pulpit as the Playground of the Spirit," will examine the role of creativity and imagination in preaching. Shepherd has recently retired as pastor of First Presbyterian Church, New York City, and continues to teach and write. He is author of 13 books, including *Diary of Daily Prayer* and *Seeing with the Soul*.

Luke Timothy Johnson, Woodruff Professor of New Testament and Christian Origins at Candler School of Theology, Emory University, will teach "Exegesis as an Ecclesial Practice." Johnson is one of the leading New Testament teachers in the U.S.

"Nurturing Spirituality in Families and Congregations" is the title of the seminar led by the Rev. Ann Reed Held, pastor of Trinity Presbyterian Church, Harrisonburg, VA. Held is author of the curriculum for the Presbyterian Church on the family and leads workshops with practical help for churches in nurturing spiritual life in the midst of a secular culture.

"Barth as a Conversation Partner for Preachers" is the title of the seminar led by Shirley Guthrie, professor emeritus and well-known author and teacher. A leading Barth interpreter, Guthrie is also interested in helping pastors who have to prepare weekly for preaching.

Jim Watkins, one of the newest members of the Columbia faculty, works with the Faith and the City Program. He has been a pastor as well as staff director in the Presbyterian Peacemaking Program. Watkins will teach "Living Faithfully in the Public Square."

All options are for one- or two-day events. Costs range from \$50 to \$125. For more information or a brochure, call 404/687-4562. □

'Equipping God's People for Ministry' planned

"EQUIPPING GOD'S PEOPLE for Ministry: Exploring Possibilities for Lay Theological Education" is the theme of the 2001 annual meeting of the Society for the Advancement of Continuing Education for Ministry (SACEM) in Decatur, January 12-14.

"This event should be valuable to people involved in leading lay education, both in academia and the church," says Linda Morningstar, associate director of the Lay Institute of Faith and Life. The Lay Institute is co-planning the event with Emory University's Candler School of Theology and the Interdenominational Theological Center.

Leaders for the event include Jim Fowler, Patricia Killen, John Westerhoff, Don Saliers, Rick Dietrich, Melva Costen, and Pete Paulsen. The \$120 conference registration fee includes the \$40 annual SACEM membership dues.

For more information, call the Office of Church Ministries Education at Candler School of Theology, 404/727-4587. □

Winter Lay Schools offered

THE 2001 WINTER Lay Schools offer several exciting opportunities for lay people to work and study with faculty at Columbia Seminary.

The Evening Lay School, which begins February 5, offers classes taught by Columbia's new professor of worship, Brian Wren, theologian George Stroup, and Beth Johnson, professor of New Testament.

Lay Institute associate director Linda Morningstar will be teaching the on-campus Morning Lay School course, "Making Sense of the Bible," which begins February 6.

Theologian and Professor Emeritus Shirley Guthrie will teach an off-campus Morning Lay School course, "What Does It Mean to Be a Human Being?," beginning February 1 at St. Luke's Presbyterian Church in Dunwoody.

Evening classes meet Mondays, February 5, 12, 19, 26 from 7:30 to 9:30. Students may choose one class, taught in four two-hour sessions. The on-campus Morning Lay School class meets Tuesdays, February 6, 13, 20, 27, and March 6, 10:30 to noon. The off-campus morning course at St. Luke's Presbyterian Church in Dunwoody meets February 1, 8, 15, and 22, also from 10:30 to noon.

For more information and costs, call 404/687-4577, or email LayInstitute@CTSnet.edu. □

Missional conversation continues

SINCE ITS PUBLICATION in 1998, the research volume, *Missional Church: A Vision for the Sending of the Church in North America*, has stimulated a broad and intense conversation about the present and future calling of the church in our country. The authors, all of whom work within the Gospel and Our Culture Network, call for a reorientation of the church as we encounter the new and strange mission field which North America has become. The Gospel and Our Culture Network is a group of Christian leaders from a wide array of churches and organizations working together on the missionary encounter of the gospel with North American assumptions, perspectives, preferences, and practices. Under the auspices of the network, five studies have appeared which address these issues.

This workshop invites pastors to engage the authors of these studies in a series of informal conversations, based upon the reading of the books. Five such conversations are taking

place on campus over the next two years. Participants are invited to arrive Sunday evening in order to spend all of Monday, through lunch on Tuesday, in conversation. Darrell Guder, Columbia's Peachtree Professor of Evangelism and Church Growth, who is editor and co-author of *Missional Church*, and author of *The Continuing Conversation of the Church*, will host the conversations.

The second Missional Church Conversation will take place February 26-27, 2001. Dr. Craig Van Gelder will join Darrell Guder in conversation. Van Gelder is professor of missiology at Luther Seminary and a leading domestic missiologist focusing on the work of the church in the United States. For more than 20 years, he has been consultant to church organizations and local churches which are dealing with systemic change.

Cost of the event is \$160. For more information, contact the Office of Continuing Education, 404/687-4562. □

Mendenhall named eighth president *continued from page 1*

With great support from her family, they made the move from Florida to Texas. She and her husband became co-pastors in Victoria, Texas, for four years. In 1991, Laura became head of staff at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Austin. Chuck is president of the Presbyterian Children's Homes for the Synod of the Sun. During this time in Austin, Laura completed the Doctor of Ministry degree at Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary in 1997. She was awarded an honorary doctorate at Austin College this past May. Since August 22, her ministry has continued as president of Columbia.

In addition to her work in the local church, she has been active at other levels of the denomination. In 1995 she became part of the Permanent Judicial Commission of the General Assembly and moderator of that commission since 1999. During that time, her ability to help those of diverse

extremely important ability. As a denomination, along with many others, we are experiencing a shortage of clergy. This is occurring because of the large number of retirements, both now and in the next few years. In addition, recent graduates of seminaries have included sizeable numbers of older, second career students who are also nearing retirement age. There is great need to encourage young people to be open to the possibility of God's call to them, as well as opening congregations and parents to this possibility. The Search Committee believed that Laura Mendenhall had the gifts and the desire to do this. She also follows in the line of the seminary's past two presidents, who also came from the pastorate to the presidency. Since the mission of the seminary is particularly to prepare and nurture pastors for the church, her concern and love for that vocation are very important.

What else interested the Search Committee? Her administrative ability. Her sense that commitment to the mission of the church and therefore of the seminary makes raising the neces-

She connects very well with young people and enables them to be open to the possibility that God is calling them.

opinions hear and understand each other and to seek common ground and the good of the whole church has been clearly in evidence. She is also a noted preacher at many seminaries and conferences, especially in the areas of worship and youth.

What is obvious to those who have met her is that Laura Mendenhall is excited about pastoral ministry. She is also able to excite others. She connects very well with young people and enables them to be open to the possibility that God is calling them. For the Search Committee, this was an

sary financial support a theologically significant task. Her sense of being part of a team in carrying out the mission of the church, and yet her ability to make difficult decisions. Her ability to listen to others and bring those of differing opinions together, even in the midst of their disagreements. Her concern for the global dimensions of the church. These characteristics fit very closely the list of characteristics that the board, faculty, and students had developed as the Search Committee began its work.

This fall, the academic year began



At the community-wide lunch after opening convocation, awards were presented to Anne Apple '01, left, and Jet Harper. Apple received the Miss C. Virginia Harrison Award, presented to a senior who is conscientious, responsible, hard working, and who will make a great contribution to the Presbyterian Church (USA). Harper, director of publications and publicity, received the Betsey Burgess Staff Award for faithfulness, dedicated service, and Christian character upholding the seminary's purpose and mission.

with great expectation and enthusiasm among students and faculty as they begin to discover in Laura Mendenhall the qualities that the Search Committee and the Board of Trustees found. There also will be occasions for the wider Columbia community—alumni/ae, presbyteries, local congregations—

to get to know her. The formal inauguration will be held as part of the annual Colloquium, April 23-25, 2001. We welcome President Mendenhall to Columbia. □

*Catherine Gonzalez
Professor of Church History and member
of the Presidential Search Committee*

Campbell Scholars Seminar begins *continued from page 1*

College, University of Cambridge, England. She is from a famous family of missiologists—the granddaughter of D.T. Niles and daughter of Preman Niles—and brings to the seminar the perspectives and commitments of a young generation of Asian theologians. Ofelia Ortega, president of the Evangelical Theological Seminary in Matanzas, Cuba, is a greatly respected leader among the burgeoning Protestant churches of Latin America. Janos Pasztor, former dean and professor on the theological faculty in Budapest, Hungary, brings not only deep reflection on the experience of the churches in Central and Eastern Europe, but also careful study of the mission imperative of the church.

Joining these international scholars are two Columbia graduates and distinguished U.S. pastors. Joanna Adams '79, senior pastor of Atlanta's Trinity Presbyterian Church, has led her congregation during a remarkable period of growth, especially among young adults. As chair of Columbia's Board of Trustees, she has provided significant leadership to the seminary during a time of renewed emphasis on the mission of the church. James Lowry '66, interim pastor of First Presbyterian Church, New Bern, North Carolina, has served as senior pastor

of historic churches in South Carolina and Tennessee and led in their revitalization and significant expansion of mission and membership.

Each year a Columbia professor will participate in the seminar as convener. This first year, Walter Brueggemann, McPheeters Professor of Old Testament, will represent the seminary faculty in the seminar.

During the seminar, participants will meet with faculty and students, lead several chapel services, and make presentations at two public forums. Erskine Clarke '66, director of the seminar, acting dean of faculty, and professor of American religious history, notes, "The seminar represents a growing emphasis at Columbia around the question of mission—God's activity in the world and the ways in which the church participates in those activities. The seminar will clarify and give insights as to the direction we should go as servants of the church as we seek to be faithful to tasks the church has given us—preparing and nurturing leaders."

At the seminar's conclusion, participants will present a paper that reflects their collaborative work. Professor Brueggemann describes the seminar as "an extraordinary adventure on the part of Columbia," which will help the seminary and the church think more clearly about the character and task of mission in the new century. □

Kristen Anderson with Erskine Clarke '66

For the Record

If you have recent news to contribute to this section, please mail it to the editor, or you may e-mail it to harperj@CTSnet.edu.

G. Thompson Brown, professor emeritus, and his wife Mardia received the Bell-Mackay Prize, given each year by Presbyterians for Renewal. The award honors those who, by life and ministry, have advanced the unity and mission of the Presbyterian Church (USA) in service to Christ.....**Grace Boyer '95** is in the ThM program in church history at Princeton Seminary.....**C. Benton Kline**, president emeritus and adjunct professor of theology, preached at North Decatur, GA, church. His book review was published in *Presbyterian Outlook*.....**Brian Wren**, professor of worship, gave presentations on the theological power of congregational song for the Atlantic Seminar in Theological Education in Nova Scotia; led a workshop and preached at the Church of the Good Shepherd, Ruxton, MD; and, for the Hymn Society in the U.S. and Canada, taught a course in Boston on hymn tune and text writing and gave a plenary presentation.....**Bill Schotanus '53**, founder and past president of the Board of Directors of North Atlanta Senior Services, now Lifespan Resources, was presented the Distinguished Service Award 2000 from the Gerontology Center of Georgia State University.....**Sid Burgess '90**, pastor of Edgewood church, Birmingham, AL, was guest preacher for The Protestant Hour radio program October 8.....**Chuck Campbell**, associate professor of homiletics, preached, led a workshop, and delivered the Somerville Lecture for the Academy of Preachers Conference in Philadelphia; preached and led a meeting at the Open Door Community, Atlanta; and preached at First church, Dalton, GA.

Robert Ramey, professor emeritus, is interim pastor at the Bethesda church, Aberdeen, NC. He presented four lectures at a stewardship conference for the United Church of Christ, St. Simons Island, GA; led an officer's spirituality retreat for Covenant church, Atlanta; and preached at the homecoming service for the St. Andrew church, Lynchburg, VA, where he was pastor from 1957-63. His most recent books are *Thriving in Ministry*, 52 *Devotions for Church Leaders*, and *The Dynamic Congregation: A Manual for Energizing Your Church*, which was chosen Book of the Week by *Presbyterian Outlook*.....**Dan Milford '93** is pastor of First church, Sand Springs, OK.....**Tim Slemmons '95** has begun Ph.D. studies in homiletics at Princeton Seminary.....**Linda Morningstar (MATS '98)**, associate director of the Lay Institute of Faith and Life, coordinated an adult summer Sunday school series, "Understanding the Faith of Our Neighbors," at Mt. Vernon church, Sandy Springs, GA. **Ron Cram**, associate professor of Christian education, led the closing discussion for the series. He also taught an adult class on

"Inter-religious Dialogue as a Spiritual Discipline" at the church.....**Jim Speed '57** (DMin '84), director of alumni/ae and church relations, preached at the Raeford, NC, church.....**Wayne Hoffmann '62** was elected president of the Military Chaplains Association. He retired from the U.S. Reserves as assistant chief of chaplains (brigadier general).....**David Murad '96**, associate pastor of First church, Kirkwood, MO, is serving a three-year term on the Presbyterian Hunger Program Advisory Board.....**Chuck Vorderberg '96** is pastor of the LaFayette and Summerville, GA, churches.....**Joon W. Lee '94** is associate pastor of the Korean church, North Miami, FL.....**Mark Jumper '82** was elected secretary of the Military Chaplains Association.....**Beth Johnson**, professor of New Testament, is working on a commentary of 1 and 2 Thessalonians for the *New Testament Library* series. She taught Sunday school at St. Luke's church, Dunwoody, GA, and preached at the Druid Hills church, Atlanta, and Holden Beach NC, chapel.

Kathleen O'Connor, professor of Old Testament, presented a paper, "Women and Debt in the Old Testament," at the annual meeting of the Catholic Biblical Association in Los Angeles.....**William Shumate '66** is pastor of Westminster church, Kirkwood, IL.....**Walter Brueggemann**, professor of Old Testament, lectured at Taiwan Presbyterian Seminary and Luther Theological Seminary; gave an

BIRTHS

To Mark '82 and Ginger Jumper, a daughter, Bonnie Fay, June 1, 2000.
To Paul '86 and Susan Henschen, a son Benjamin Thomas, Feb. 29, 2000.
To Jeff '93 and Kerri '93 Peterson-Davis, a daughter, Kaitlin Cord, Aug. 5, 2000.
To Ashley Beaty Bickerstaff '98, a daughter, Michelle Price, July 5, 2000.
To Laura Smith Conrad '98 and Chuck, a daughter, Hallie Elizabeth, July 5, 2000.
To Cindy '99 and Tim Dixon, a son, Carter, June 20, 2000.
To Gordon '00 and Kelly Foltz, a daughter, Hannah Rachel, June 30, 2000.
To Cynthia '01 and Jim Montgomery, a daughter, Katherine Louise, Sept. 3, 2000.
To Bea '01 and Brian Edwards, a daughter, Kacey Celeste, Sept. 8, 2000.
To Dan '02 and Jill Matthews, a daughter, Kara Grace, July 4, 2000.
To Daniel '02 and Carolyn Smead, a son, Jeremiah Caleb, Aug. 15, 2000.

DEATHS

Walter Swetnam '25, July 31, 2000.
David Maxwell '56, April 28, 2000.
Clayton Bell '58, July 5, 2000.
Henry Acklen (DMin '84), June 23, 2000.

address at the Preaching Conference in Montreat; and led a workshop for Presbytery of New Hope. His book, *Deep Memory, Exuberant Hope*, has been published by Fortress Press. An article, "Always in the Shadow of the Empire," was printed in *The Church as Counter-culture*, and another article was published in *Scottish Journal of Theology*.....**Peggy Owens '94** is associate general presbyter for education and mission with the Presbytery of Mid-Kentucky. Her husband, **Bill Owens '92**, is interim pastor for the Okolona church, Louisville, KY.....**Nancy Lee** (ThM '93) received the Ph.D. from Union Seminary and Presbyterian School of Christian Education.....**Rick Dietrich**, director of the Lay Institute of Faith and Life, joined *The Protestant Hour* in July as host and interviewer of the broadcast's scheduled preachers. He continues to serve as parish associate at Chapel in the Pines church, Birmingham, AL. His new poems appeared in *Theology Today*. His recent article, "The Lesson and the Arts (four essays in)," was published in *Lectionary Homiletics*.....**Barbara Holmes '95** has written a book, *A Private Woman in Public Spaces: Barbara Jordan's Speeches on Ethics, Public Religion and Law*.....**Sasan Tavassoli** (ThM '01) was ordained by the Evangelical Church of Iran at Westminster church, Atlanta.....**Walter Tennyson '93** is pastor of the Broadway church, New York City.

Timothy Mallard (ThM '99) is assigned to the Office of the Chief of Chaplains, U.S. Army, where he is working to establish procedures for recruiting under-represented faith groups and minorities into the Army Chaplains Corps.....Recent marriages: **Rachael Banzhoff '00** and Eric Knoll, June 10 in Brandon, FL; **Linda Wells**, administrative assistant to the president, and Greg Moore, June 10 in Decatur, GA; **Audrey Edmondson**, staff associate for the Spirituality Program, and David Ivester, June 17, in Atlanta; **Noelle Henry '99** and Denny Read '02, June 24 in Anderson, SC; **Brian Wyatt '00** and Sarah Lumpkin, July 1 in Canton, GA.....**Becky Davis '00** and Jim Davis, remarried July 8 in Columbia's chapel; **Jonathan Carroll '00** and Kendra Bronsink, Aug. 5 in Charlotte, NC; **Brandi Casto '00** and **Andy Waters '01**, Aug. 12 in Greenville, SC; **Ellen Donnan '93** and Bob Carroll, May 20 in Oaks Corner, NY.....**Roger Mackey '68** (DMin '91) is pastor of the Mulberry church, Charlotte, NC.....**Darrell Guder**, professor of evangelism and church growth, participated in a German-American consultation, "Missional Youth Ministry in a Post-Modern Context." He attended the Worldwide Ministries Conference and the board meeting of the Presbyterian Frontier Fellowship. Guder led a workshop for the Presbytery of East Tennessee's training event, an adult education class for the Shallowford church, Atlanta, and a retreat for congregational leadership at First church, Belton, SC. He preached at the Decatur, GA, church. In Germany, Guder gave a presentation on missional church for the annual meeting of youth workers. He was a panelist for the National

Presbyterian Seminarians Conference in Atlanta. His book, *The Incarnation and the Church's Witness*, has been printed.....**George Rogers** (DMin '01) is pastor of First church, El Paso, TX.....**Sarah Diehl '98** received an M.A. in Christian education from Union-PSCE and is associate pastor of The Kirk of Kildaire, Cary, NC.....**P.C. Enniss '58** (ThM '68) is interim pastor at First church, New York City.....**Robert Murphy '81** is pastor of Trinity church, Fairhope, AK.

Carlos Cardoza-Orlandi, associate professor of world Christianity, has written *Construyendo El Reino: Teologia y estrategia de mision de los Discipulos de Cristo en Puerto Rico, 1899-1999*, which was presented in the Christian church (Disciples of Christ) in Pajaros, Bayamon, Puerto Rico.....**Ernestine Cole**, associate dean of students, served as chaplain at the Presbyterian Women's Gathering in Louisville, KY. She preached at the Conyers, GA, church, Westhills church, Atlanta, Hillside church, Decatur, GA, and Oakhurst church, Decatur.....**George Waters '87** is stated supply at First United church, Knoxville, TN.....**Ok-Kee Kim '99** was ordained evangelist at Korean Community church, Tucker, GA.....**Stephen Nickle '87** is chaplain at Trinity University.....**Erin Sharp '99** is associate pastor of the Fredericksburg, VA, church.....**Tom Hagood '82** is pastor of Columbia church, Decatur, GA.....**Gerone Lockhart '99** is in the Ph.D. program in sociology at New York University.....**Charles Chai '98** is pastor of the Korean church, Peoria, IL.....**Rodger Nishioka**, associate professor of Christian education, preached for New Covenant Presbytery in Houston, TX; the Synod of the Sun reunion celebration at First church, Dallas, TX; Ridglea church, Ft. Worth, TX; and the Smyrna, GA, church. He was a keynote speaker for the Synod of Southern California and Hawaii; a New Castle Presbytery youth event in Wilmington, DE; the FOCUS weekend at First

Continued on page 7

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church, Atlanta; and the New Wilmington, PA, Missions Conference. Nishioka taught a course on Reformed theology for youth ministry leaders for the Presbyterian Church in Canada. He published a chapter on the emerging youth culture for the 2001 *Playbook*, a youth ministry resource for the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America.

Anna Carter Florence, assistant professor of preaching and worship, led a workshop and served as liturgist for the Westminster Conference 2000 on Worship and Music. She also led a workshop at the Montreat 2000 Preaching Conference. She taught a preaching course at McCormick Seminary with **Don Wardlaw**, former Columbia professor of preaching, and preached at the North Decatur, GA, church and Wee Kirk church, Linville, NC. Her sermon was published in *Renewing the Vision: Reformed Faith for the Twenty-First Century*.**Libby Inman '92** is a pastoral counselor for the Georgia Association for Pastoral Care, Decatur.**Scott Lawson '93** is pastor of the Community Church of

Hong Kong.**Bill Harkins**, instructor in pastoral care and theology, has been granted candidacy for ordination in the Episcopal Diocese of Atlanta. He serves as a postulant for Holy Family Episcopal Church, Jasper, GA. He spoke to the Pastoral Counselors Association of Georgia and served on the advisory boards of St. Luke's Episcopal Church's Training and Counseling Center and of the Department of Pastoral Services of Emory University Hospitals.**Stan Wood**, director of the Center for New Church Development (NCD), led a retreat for the Synod of Mid-Atlantic pastors, evangelism workshops for East Virginia Presbytery, East Tennessee Presbytery, and the National Seminarians Conference, and served as a consultant on strategic planning and NCD with the General Assembly staff of the Church of Scotland. He held a Lilly Grant NCD Twenty-First Century Research Meeting in Chicago. At San Francisco Seminary, Wood taught a program for commissioned lay pastors of Latino new churches.**Charles Cousar**, professor of New Testament, preached at the Spring Valley church, Columbia, SC, and taught a new members class at the

Decatur, GA, church, and adult classes at St. Luke's church, Dunwoody, GA, and Northwest church, Atlanta.**Brent Barry '98** is pastor of the Glendale church, Dallas, TX.

Mark Douglas, assistant professor of Christian ethics, presented a paper at the Southeastern Commission for the Study of Religion Conference. His article was published in *Journal of Business Ethics*. He attended the fellow's meeting of the Society for Values in Higher Education and did pulpit supply work in Colorado.**Jeffrey Yergler** (DMin '96) is pastor of the University Place church, Tacoma, WA.**Erskine Clarke '66**, professor of American religious history and acting dean of faculty, has had his book, *Wrestlin' Jacob*, reissued by University of Alabama Press.**Christine Yoder**, assistant professor in Old Testament, preached at the North Decatur, GA, church; participated in the Wabash Center consultation, "Teaching Biblical Hebrew," at Princeton Seminary; taught at Riverside church, Jacksonville, FL, and the Druid Hills church, Atlanta. Her book review was published in *Princeton Seminary Bulletin*.**Cameron Murchison**, professor of ministry, completed sabbatical study at the University of Cambridge, rejoined the teaching team for the Brotherhood Class at Central church, Atlanta; preached at the Timberridge church, McDonough, GA; and preached and participated in the dedication of Columbarium for the Blacksburg, VA, church.**Morris Taylor '97** is associate pastor of the Cottage Hill church, Mobile, AL. □

Major gifts director named

I MET NEELY YOUNG four years ago when I conducted a feasibility study for an independent school in Atlanta. Its Board of Trustees was considering



a campaign and wanted to sample opinions in their community about their school and project. I was to conduct a series of interviews and focus group

sessions and report my findings to the board.

One theme quickly emerged from my conversations with parents, board members, and faculty. With virtual unanimity, the community agreed that Neely Young, the school's headmaster, would be a key ingredient to any attempt to raise funds for the school. "Neely is clearly a strength here," one parent said, "and people will respond to him."

Indeed, this prediction was borne out, both in the board's decision to move forward and in the succeeding campaign. Neely's drive, enthusiasm, and commitment were in evidence throughout. He believed in the importance of the campaign for the school and its future, and could articulate that belief in ways that helped other people believe. We worked hard, but the campaign's success was never in doubt.

Neely has served as headmaster at Mt. Pisgah Christian School in Alpharetta, Georgia, where he led the school's first capital campaign, which has raised more than \$4.5 million in gifts and pledges. For 12 years before that, he was headmaster of St. Martin's Episcopal School, Atlanta. Under his leadership, it became one of the city's best elementary and middle schools. He served for 15 years as assistant headmaster and academic dean at Pace Academy and taught at Emory and Oglethorpe universities, Lovett School of Atlanta, and Collegiate Schools of Richmond, Virginia. He holds the Ph.D. from Emory.

So I am thrilled that Neely Young has come to Columbia Seminary as director of major gifts. A lifetime student of history, he understands the significance of Columbia's tradition. He appreciates the vitality of scholarship and learning. Since 1975 he has been a member of Peachtree Presbyterian Church in Atlanta, where he has served as deacon, elder, and Sunday school teacher and witnessed compelling ministry and church leadership.

He is ideal for the task at hand—soliciting support for our programs, goals, and dreams—because he believes in the future of Christ's church and has embraced the role that Columbia will play. □

Richard DuBose
Vice President for Development
and Seminary Relations

From the Bookstore

No. of copies	Retail price	Columbia price
New titles by Columbia Faculty:		
<i>The Covenanted Self: Explorations in Law and Covenant</i> by Walter Brueggemann	\$18.00	\$15.30
<i>Deep Memory Exuberant Hope: Contested Truth in a Post-Christian World</i> by Walter Brueggemann	\$16.00	\$13.60
<i>The Incarnation and the Church's Witness</i> by Darrell L. Guder	\$9.00	\$7.65
<i>Praying Twice: The Music and Words of Congregational Song</i> by Brian Wren	\$23.00	\$19.55
<i>Thriving in Ministry</i> by Robert H. Ramey	\$19.00	\$16.15

Total amount for books

Shipping and handling: (orders under \$20.00, add \$4.50; orders from \$20.00 to \$49.99, add \$6.00; orders \$50.00 and over, add \$7.50). All books shipped via United Parcel Service.

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Last minute ideas for the season of giving

THE LAST MONTHS of the year traditionally offer a time of reflection and review of the year's finances. Remember that charitable gifts made by December 31 are deductible in 2000.

Take stock in your seminary. Did you know that gifts of appreciated stock can provide significant tax advantages? More and more friends of Columbia are choosing to make gifts in the form of stocks, bonds, and mutual funds that have significantly increased in value. A gift of appreciated securities is deductible at full market value and avoids capital gains taxes that would otherwise be due if you sold those securities yourself.

"But wait! I like this stock! I've been making cash contributions to Columbia for years. I own some stock that's gone up in values, but I don't want to give the stock away."

Let us show you how to avoid capital gains, continue to own your stock, and increase your cost basis while making a charitable contribution to Columbia.

To find out how, contact Caitlin Way, director of the Annual Fund, at 404/687-4588 or 888/601-8918. □



Following convocation, faculty members greeted new students. Tamara Smith, an exchange student from United Theological College of the West Indies, is welcomed by President Mendenhall, while faculty members Brian Wren, Cameron Muchison, and Charles Cousar '58 spoke with other students.

New year begins

COLUMBIA SEMINARY OFFICIALLY began its 173rd session on September 13 with opening convocation, with faculty, staff, students, board members, and friends attending. President Laura S. Mendenhall addressed the Columbia community on "Remember Your Baptism."

Of the 56 new basic degree students, 52 are enrolled in the Master of Divinity program and four in the Master of Arts in Theological Studies program. The M.Div. students come from 17 states, and the class is 94 percent Presbyterian.

The 36 new students in the Doctor of Ministry program, 11 in the Master of Theology program, and one in the Doctor of Theology program represent 14 denominations, as well as Reform Judaism.

Students receiving Columbia, Honor, and Merit Scholarships were recognized. The Ludwig Richard Max Dewitz Old Testament Studies Award and the Samuel A. Cartledge Biblical Studies Award were given to Jonathan Kaplan, and Lucy Youngblood received the Indiantown Country Church Award.

To read President Mendenhall's convocation address and Professor Charles Cousar's prayer, visit our web site at www.CTSnet.edu. □

*The inauguration of
Columbia's eighth president*

Laura S. Mendenhall

April 23 – 25, 2001

✦ ✦ ✦

*Alumni /ae Gathering
and*

Inaugural Symposium

*"Church Leadership
in the Twenty-First Century"*

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